



*News Release distribution on April 10, 2014*

### **WOODSTOCK TREE BOARD PROVIDING TREES FOR “THE BIG GIVE”**

The Town of Woodstock and the Woodstock Tree Board are participating in Peter Muhlenberg Middle School’s 2014 “The Big Give”. For the past several years, students from the school have volunteered their time to carry out selected community projects. “The Big Give” is coordinated by Jennifer Jones, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Civics teacher for PMMS. Most activities will take place on April 12, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The project demonstrates to students the value of community service and the positive impact they can have on their community by working together.

The Town and Tree Board are providing 10 trees on April 12 and have identified 10 suitable species and planting sites throughout W.O. Riley Park. The students will be instructed in proper planting techniques and appropriate care to make sure the trees thrive. The trees will include London planetrees, Oklahoma redbuds, maples, and crabapples.

The Woodstock Town Council previously approved a Tree Canopy Implementation Guide that calls for increasing Woodstock’s overall tree canopy. The Guide calls for an 8% increase over the next 20 years. Numerous scientific studies have documented the value of trees in urban areas in helping with stormwater management, temperature modification, energy savings, and general enhancement.

The Woodstock Tree Board developed a checklist of trees suitable for our climate and a variety of site conditions, such as height and size limitations of planting sites. All new plantings on public property will be driven by the “right tree, right place” concept. There will be a variety of tree species used in the planting project to help diversify the Town’s trees. They have been chosen for their hardiness, appropriate size and height, foliage, and aesthetic considerations.

Information about the Woodstock Tree Board, the Tree Canopy Guide, and the Recommended Checklist of Suitable Trees may be found on the Town’s website at [www.townofwoodstockva.gov/treeboard](http://www.townofwoodstockva.gov/treeboard). For more information about the project, please contact Angela K. Clem, Assistant Town Planner, 540.450.3621 or [angela.clem@townofwoodstockva.gov](mailto:angela.clem@townofwoodstockva.gov) or for information about the “Big Give”, Jennifer Jones, [jlhaas@shenandoah.k12.va.us](mailto:jlhaas@shenandoah.k12.va.us).